

# The Bethel Courier.

Volume XIII, Number 4

Winter 1989

Bethel Historical Society



Former Bethel Town Clerk, Katheryn M. Eames (left) stands with present Clerk, Merton T. Brown, Jr. behind the marker of the grave of the first town clerk, Benjamin Russell, Sr. during the Society's annual picnic held in July 1989. Photo courtesy of Donald S. Brown.

## BRIEF BIOGRAPHIES OF BETHEL TOWN CLERKS 1796 TO THE PRESENT

- (1) Benjamin Russell, Sr. (1739-1802), farmer, born in Andover, MA, married Mary Lefavre in 1762, father of 5 children, early settler of Fryeburg, ME, justice of the peace, soldier of the Revolution, came to Sudbury Canada (Bethel) in the 1770s, served as clerk from incorporation in 1796 to 1800
- (2) Dr. Timothy Carter (1768-1845), physician, born in Ward, MA, married first, Frances Freeland (1793), came to Bethel in 1799, settled in Middle Intervale, justice of the peace, town treasurer, selectman, married second after the death of his first wife, Lydia Russell (1818), father of 12 children (7 by first wife, 5 by second), town clerk 1800-12
- (3) John Holt (1764-1830), farmer, born in Tewksbury, MA, came to Bethel in 1785, soldier of the Revolution, town official, married Lydia Russell, father of nine children, deacon of the Baptist Church, town clerk 1813-1815

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## ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN TOPS GOAL

*Editor's Note: A near record number of donors (318) contributed over \$7700 to exceed the 1989 goal for the Endowment Campaign, chaired by Howard Cole, assisted by Barbara D. Brown, John B. Head, E. Louise Lincoln and Alden T. Kennett. Special gratitude is due all of those below for making this success possible.*

Roger & Nancy Adams, W. Simsbury, CT; Olive & James Anderson, Newry, in memory of Jessie Lehrian Schroder; Ernest & Alberta Angevine, Bethel; Elizabeth W. Baker, Rumford Point, in memory of Dorothy Kimball Moore; Arthur & Ruth Barker, Willington, CT; Bradley & Judith Barker, Bethel, in memory of Frank & Maude Chapman; Jean Barker, Delray, FL, in memory of Edith Eaton Eddy & Marjorie MacArthur Noll; Lillian & Dorothy Bartlett, Bethel, in memory of Dorothy Graves; Otis Bartlett, Berlin, NH; Urban, Jr. & Neda Bartlett, Bethel; John & Mary Beth Bayerlein/Cameron House, Bethel; Bessie Bennett, West Peru, in memory of Lester Bennett & Winnie Heath; Randall H. Bennett, Bethel, in memory of E. M. Quinn, Lester L. Bennett & Winnie E. Heath; Harriet N. Bensen, Long Branch, NJ, in memory of Mr. & Mrs. J. H. Serra; Jeane Tobin Bletzer, Woodstock, VT, in memory of Emma Howard Roche; Reba Harden Bloom, Clinton, NJ, in memory of Ensworth Thomas Harden; Kenneth & Gwyneth Bohr, Bethel; Garret & Melody Dalessandro Bonnema, Bethel; Florine E. Bowden, Esmond, RI; Dorothy F. Brinck, South Paris, in memory of Albert Flanders; Donald & Arlene Brown, Bethel; James L. & Beatrice B. Brown, Bethel; Julia B. Brown, Bethel, in memory of Bea & Cecil Conrad; Marie C. Brown, Bethel; Maxine C. Brown, Bethel; Ida Lee Bryant, Bangor, in memory of Sally Rice Twitchell; Gurdon S. Buck, Watertown, MA; Dean F. Bumpus, Brownfield; Dr. Richard D. & Catherine L. Bush, Belmont, MA; Guy P. & Nancy F. Butler, Millinocket, in memory of Kimball Ames & Edward M. Quinn; Donald W. & Mary S. Calderwood, Mesa, AZ; Elizabeth Mason Carter, Bethel, in memory of Edward M. Quinn; Stephen C. & Lynda H. Chandler, Bethel; Albert S. Chapman, Harbert, MI; Daphne Chapman, Peabody, MA, in memory of Philip Sheridan Chapman, Jr.; Franklin & Rosalind R. Chapman, Bethel; Dr. Donald M. Christie, Jr., Poughkeepsie, NY, in memory of E. M. Quinn; Norman & Sylvia D. Clanton, Bethel; Ellen Coffin, Norway, in memory of N. Eugene Burns; Howard & Virginia Cole, Bethel; Irene M. Cole, Waltham, MA; Mary Cole, Bethel, in memory of Clifford Cole; Mary Lou Cole, Norwood, MA, in memory of Walter Crawford & Eva Chapman; Evelyn Rebecca (Walker) Collins, Newcumberland, PA, in memory of James Freeman Walker; Rupert D. & Eva N. Conroy, Auburn, in memory of Sylvia Conroy; Wilfred & Eleanor Conary, Bethel, in memory of Howard Brown & Edward M. Quinn; Barbara Crocker, Riverside, RI, in memory of Wallace & Lilia Coolidge; Clayton & Lola Crockett, Bethel; Elsie Davis, Bethel; Richard & Rita Davis, Bethel; Colette Dickey, Camden; Gretchen Dock,

(continued on page 2)

*(Endowment Campaign, continued from page 1)*

Newton, MA, in memory of Leslie E. Davis; Dana & Barbara Douglass, Bethel; Frances E. Dunn, North Edgcomb; Richard & Carole Duplessis/Pooh Corner Farm & Greenhouse, Bethel, in memory of E. Mike Quinn; Hugh S. & Mariann E. Durgin, Bethel, in memory of John E. Grover; Florence S. Dyer, Milford, NH; Rodney E. & Katheryn M. Eames, Cape Elizabeth; Shirley Bartlett Eby, Stockton, CA, in memory of James Cleveland & Marguerite C. Bartlett; Donald B. & Edith Eaton Eddy, Bethel; Freeman A. & Barbara C. Ellingwood, Englewood, FL; Lucretia B. Evans, Bronx, NY, in memory of Moses Mason Robinson; Ray Fales, Braintree, MA, in memory of Alice Kimball Fales; Walter & Phyllis Fales, Royal Oak, MI, in memory of Alice M. Fales; Edna E. Fallon, Bethel; Norman K. & Barbara Ferguson, Hanover, in memory of Hazel M. Ferguson; Charles B. Fobes, Portland; Myra M. Foster, Bethel, in memory of David S. Foster; Muriel Frazer, New York, NY; Leo J. & Madeleine S. Gastonguay, Putnam, CT, in memory of Wilma Forbes Gastonguay; Marian Penley Gates, Ann Arbor, MI, in memory of Francis H. Penley; Arlene M. Gerry, Lovell, in memory of Edward Quinn; Guy & Madeleine Gibbs, Bethel, in memory of Jerrold A. Gibbs; Arthur & Ruth Gilbert, West Bethel; Robert W. Goodwin/Goodwin's Inc., Norway; Celia K. Gorman, Bethel; Lillian H. Grant, Gorham, in memory of Francis H. Grant; Paul Gray, So. Windsor, CT, in memory of their family; Ruth D. Grover/Bethel Spa Motel & Shops, Bethel; Agnes Haines, Bethel; Harold E. Hall, Hebron, in memory of Mildred Merrill Hall; Mildred C. Hanscom, South Portland; Richard & Frances Harding, Bryant Pond; Mary Lee Harris, New London, NH, in memory of Agnes Howe Bettinger; Carolyn Wight Harrison, South Portland, in memory of Elizabeth Emery Wight; Colwyn F. & Judith E. Haskell, Bethel; Faye D. Hastings, West Paris, in memory of Edward Hastings; Elden R. & Barbara B. Hathaway, Bryant Pond, in memory of Mike Quinn; Florence B. Hathaway, Needham, MA, in memory of Lloyd A. Hathaway; Walter H. & Carolyn C. Hatch, Bethel; John B. & Fumiko I. Head, Bethel, in memory of Helen C. Berry & E. M. Quinn; Olive A. Head, West Bethel, in memory of Hazel Grover Wheeler & Edward Quinn; Clayton & Helen Heath, Jr., Norway; Ethel J. Herr, Bethel, in memory of Ed Quinn; Richard L. & Jane W. Hosterman, West Bethel, in memory of Ned Hastings, Ed Quinn, & Edith Eddy; Rodney K. & Geraldine S. Howe, Bethel, in memory of Louis Thibodeau; Stanley R. Howe, Bethel, in memory of Ralph Hall, Iva Hutchinson, William W. Howe, Edward M. Quinn, Edith Eaton Eddy, Anita Ferrand, Louis Thibodeau & Alice G. Taylor; Harlan & Gertrude Hutchins, Bethel; Lee & Virginia Hutchins, Bethel; Mildred Jackson, Bethel; Arlan R. & Eleanor Jodrey, Bethel, in memory of Melvin Jodrey; Walter A. & Francesca Ann Jodrey, Gorham, NH, in memory of Ed Quinn; Charlotte K. Johnson, Westford, in memory of Albert L. Johnson; Paul A. & Helen Varner Judkins, Dixfield, in memory of Doris Lord; Royden A. & Alice Keddy, Gorham; Ronald C. & Marguerite Kendall, Bethel, in memory of Edward Quinn; Earlon & Mary Keniston, Bethel, in memory of Sally Rice Twitchell; Alden & Mabel Kennett, Bethel; Charles & Mary Keoskie, Bethel; William H. Keiffer III/James M. May, Marblehead, MA; Herbert & Ruth Kittredge, Bethel, in memory of Laurier Kittredge; John & Margaret King, Lakeland, FL, in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Harry H. King; Frederick W. & Barbara F. Kneeland, Cherryfield, in memory of Roland and Libbie Kneeland; James D. Konkel, Portland; Lila E. Lamoureux, Island Pond, VT; Harold Lawrence, Portland; Daisy LeClair, Bethel, in memory of Syl LeClair; Will & Mary Leland, Berkeley Heights, NJ; E. Louise Lincoln, Bethel; Elizabeth S. Lord, Bethel; Arlene D. Lowell, Bethel, in memory of Lloyd B. Lowell; Frank & Beatrice Lowell, Bethel, in memory of Danny & Iola Forbes, Emeline Lufkin, Canaan, NH; Merrill & Jane B. Luthe, Portland, in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Raymond C. Blanchard; Nancy H.

March, Millis, MA; Cynthia A. Mason, Judith Mason, Alden Mason & Sons, Bethel, in memory of Edward M. Quinn; Kimball Mason, Boston, MA; Philip Craig Mason, Gorham; Frederick & Minabelle McMillin, Bethel, in memory of John & Virginia McMillin, William & Hazel Strout; Pearline McMillin, Bethel, in memory of R. S. McMillin; Nancy H. Mercer, Bethel, in memory of James Haines; G. Vivian Merrill, Fryeburg, in memory of Mike Quinn; Ralph O. Merrill, Bethel; Eva M. Mills, Bryant Pond, in memory of Christine G. Grover; Edward L. & Mary A. Mills, Locke Mills, in memory of Bertha Mills; Bernard Mohr & Karen Brown-Mohr, Portland; Joann Mooney, Ottawa, Canada; Marilyn Mollicone, Augusta, in memory of Bernice Haines Noyes; Helen A. Morton, Bethel, in memory of Ed Quinn; Herbert H. Morton, III, Andover, MA, in memory of Ed Quinn; Hazel H. Newell, Locke Mills; George H. Noll, Bethel, in memory of Marjorie MacArthur Noll; Leslie A. Noyes, Bethel; Hazel Farwell O'Donnell, Newtonville, MA, in memory of Wallace Lewis Farwell; Marvin & Tineke Ouwinga, Bethel, in memory of Helen Berry; Richard & Leonore Oyler, San Clemente, CA; Earlon & Mary Paine, Bethel; Guy & Marilyn Parker, Milford, CT, in memory of Richard Bean; Harry & Eleanor Parsons, Bethel, in memory of Thomas F. Vail; Florice & Louis Paul, Bethel, in memory of Louis Craig Paul & E. M. Quinn; Ernest & Betty Perkins, Bethel, in memory of James E. Perkins; Helen M. Philbrook, Augusta; Archibald T. & Persis G. Post, Bethel; Dr. Majic S. & Jeanette S. Potsaid, Hanover, MA; Harold & Eunice G. Powell, Bethel, in memory of Kevin B. Powell; Betty R. Prescott, Bangor; Anthony & Eleanor Pugliese, Bethel, in memory of E. M. Quinn; John Quinn, Dunstable, MA, in memory of PFC John Quinn; Richard D. Razor/The Bethel Inn, Bethel; Vance & Janet Richardson, Portland, in memory of Eva Bean; Beatrice R. Ritter, Torrington, CT; David & Adelaide R. Robinson, Yarmouthport, MA; Bethel Rotary Club, Bethel, in memory of E. M. Quinn; Dorothy Schmidt, Augusta; Kirk Siegel, Bethel; Roy & Shar Silver, Bryant Pond, in memory of Carrie B. Grover; Roxanne T. Sly, Brooklin; Ronald & Gloria Snyder, West Bethel, in memory of Annie E. Nile; Charles R. & Bernice L. Stevens, Gray; Clyde & Bertha Stevens, Bethel; Doris Heaward Averill Stevens, Rexford, NY, in memory of James & Wilma Brooks Heaward; Randal & Sarah Stevens, Bethel, in memory of Edith Eddy; Dr. Robert B. & Joanne Peabody Stewart, Kalamazoo, MI, in memory of Walter Richardson Peabody; Janet & Dexter Stowell, Bethel; Michael S. Stowell, Lovettsville, VA, in memory of George P. Stowell, Jr.; Harriet Stowell, West Bethel, in memory of Iva Hutchinson; Persis Suddeth, Bowie, MD, in memory of Persis Cushman Berry; Glenn E. Swan, Mexico, in memory of Charles N. Swan; Robert E. & Violet Swain, East Andover, in memory of Lucie Morse Swain; Douglas M. & Patricia J. Swett, Center Conway, NH; Muriel Brinck Thompson, West Springfield, MA, in memory of Evelyn Brinck Cockburn; Margaret Joy Tibbetts, Bethel, in memory of Dr. & Mrs. R. R. Tibbetts; Dr. John & Margaret Trinward, North Waterford; Don & Peggy Tobin, Bandera, TX, in memory of Florence Twitchell Tobin; Peter Tommila, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA; Myrtle P. Tucker, Dover, MA, in memory of Guy & Georgia Pratt; Frances A. Usenik, Bryant Pond; Edmond J. & Sudie L. Vachon, Bethel; Stephen Verrill, Concord, MA, in memory of Amy C. Verrill & Floyd Verrill; Frank & Janet Vogt, Bethel, in memory of Helen Berry; Margaret S. Ward, King of Prussia, PA, in memory of The William Farwell Family; Les & Marzee Whall, Salt Lake City, UT, in memory of the York Family; Maxwell & Elizabeth Whiteman, Willow Grove, PA, in memory of Dr. John Twaddle & Ashby Tibbe; Muriel Whitney, Bethel; Joan Trapp Wiese, Bethel; Frederic O. & Sue L. Wight, Newry; Paula M. Wight, Cumberland; Ruth Wight, Bethel, in memory of Marjorie Cummings; Willard & Sylvia Wight, Newry, in memory of Carrie M. Wight; Priscilla C. Wiley, Katonah, NY, in memory of Ruth & Kimball Ames;



Dennis & Rita Wilson, Bethel, in memory of Irene I. Wilson; Robert & Lucia Wilson, Gorham, in memory of E. M. Quinn; Roman & Elizabeth Woronzoff, Bethel; Edna M. York, Bethel, in memory of Robert S. York; John W. York, Lilburn, GA, in memory of Hilda J. York; Robert & Jeanette York, Orrs Island; Archie & Jane Young, Bethel, in memory of Pauline B. Chapin; Robert & Sonia Young, Essex, MA, in memory of Amos A. Young.

*(Town Clerks, continued from page 1)*

- (4) Barbour Bartlett (1786-1861), farmer, born in present-day Hanover, ME, married Julia Twitchell, father of 11 children, served as selectman, tax collector and town treasurer, justice of the peace for many years, lived in Mayville, served as clerk from 1816-1834
- (5) William Frye (1796-1854), lawyer, born in Fryeburg, ME, came to Bethel in 1820 as the town's first lawyer, married Lois Twitchell (1828), father of 9 children, served as clerk 1835-36 and 1852
- (6) Elias Mellen Carter (1811-1880), farmer, born in Bethel, served as Selectman, state representative, executive councillor and county commissioner, married Rebecca Williamson, father of 11 children, served as clerk from 1837-1841
- (7) Eliphaz C. Bean (1813-1897), farmer, tavern keeper, postmaster, born in Bethel, married Sarah Farnham (1838), father of 5 children, selectman, school committee member, clerk 1842-43
- (8) Ira C. Kimball (1816-1866), storekeeper, born in Bethel, married first Joanna Rowe, had 4 children by first wife, married second Salome Chapman, had four children by second wife, first Republican state representative from Bethel, clerk 1844-45
- (9) Hiram Holt (1803-1868), farmer, married Elohe Verrill in 1826, 2 children, clerk 1846-47
- (10) Mighill Mason (1820-1880), storekeeper and schoolmaster, born in Bethel, married Mary Bartlett, 3 children, tax collector, school committee member, justice of the peace, clerk 1848-49
- (11) Gideon A. Hastings (1821-1905), businessman, born in Bethel, married Dolly Kimball in 1847, selectman, state representative, county commissioner, Civil War veteran, father of 8 children, served as clerk 1850-1851
- (12) Israel G. Kimball (1826-1893), farmer, born in Bethel, married Lavinia Duston, 5 children, agent to fill the town's quotas during Civil War, selectman, tax collector, state representative, clerk 1853-54
- (13) Benjamin Freeman (1819-1890), businessman, married Martha A., 3 children, Civil War veteran, temperance advocate, Universalist, clerk 1855-57

### EDITOR'S CORNER

For a number of years, the Society has received inquiries regarding the middle name of Virgil V. Twitchell (1842-1892), a Bethel native who founded the Gorham, NH MOUNTAINEER. Recently a visitor from Oregon to the Dr. Moses Mason House brought the desired information that could not be found among the resources of the Society's Eva Bean Research Room. Twitchell's middle name is very unusual: Verveldye. Once more another riddle of the Bethel past has been solved.

SRH

### PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Among the leaders of New England towns for over two hundred years has been the town clerk. The clerk not only recorded decisions at town meetings, but attended to a myriad of other functions including the keeping of vital records. In Bethel's 29 town clerks we have unusual examples of dedication. Elsewhere in this issue are brief biographies of Bethel's town clerks, who we honor for their service to the town since it was incorporated in 1796.

Marvin Ouwinga

- (14) Charles Mason (1827-1904), businessman, born in Bethel, married Melissa Russell, 7 children, trustee of Gould Academy, charter member of the Bethel Masonic Lodge #97, town treasurer, clerk 1858-1860, 1865-66
- (15) Albert L. Burbank (1831-1920), businessman, married Isabella Fanning, 3 children, clerk of courts, Gould Academy Board of Trustees, official in Portland Custom House, merchant in Portland, clerk 1861-62
- (16) Oliver H. Mason (1830-1891), businessman, married first Alma Connor who died in 1854, married second Olive Lee in 1865, 3 children (2 by first wife, one by second), town treasurer, clerk 1864
- (17) Enoch Foster, Jr. (1839-1913), lawyer, born in Newry, married first Adeline Lowe, second Sarah Chapman, 1 child, postmaster of Bethel (1868), Civil War veteran, justice of the Maine Supreme Judicial Court, clerk 1867
- (18) Leander T. Barker (1828-1911), businessman, born in Bethel, married Dorcas Brackett, no children, clerk 1868-1873, 1877-1886, 1887-1911
- (19) Stephen S. Abbott (1859-?), occupation uncertain, born in Bethel, married Katie Locke, school committee, moved to Denver, CO, clerk 1886-87
- (20) Goodwin R. Wiley (1846-1911), druggist, born in Bethel, married Matilda Swift, 5 children, Bethel Masonic Lodge #97, clerk 1864-76
- (21) Davis G. Lovejoy (1861-1931), businessman, born in Andover, ME, married first Nellie Leach, married second Fannie Bisbee, Odd Fellows, Bethel Masonic Lodge #97, Methodist, clerk 1911-17
- (22) Wesley Wheeler (1879-1963), grain store operator & mail carrier, born in Bethel, married Constance Grover, 2 children, Odd Fellows, Bethel Masonic Lodge #97, Knights of Pythias, clerk 1917-24
- (23) Alice Joy Brooks (1890-1954), businesswoman, born in South Berwick, married D. Grover Brooks, 2 children, town clerk 1924-49
- (24) Margaret Baker (1921- ), businesswoman, married Wilfred Baker, 1 child, American Legion Auxillary, Civil Defense officer, clerk 1949-57
- (25) Violet Bennett (1899-1988), homemaker, born in Bethel, married Clarence Bennett, 4 children, clerk 1957-68
- (26) Katheryn M. Eames (1923- ), secretary, b. Reed Plantation, ME, married Rodney E. Eames, 4 children, clerk 1968-69

*(continued on page 4)*

## SOCIETY SALES DEPARTMENT

The Society maintains a selection of modestly priced gifts and historical publications. These may be ordered at the prices listed below. Maine residents should include 5% sales tax. Orders under \$10 should include \$1 for postage and handling; those over \$10 but under \$20 should include \$2 and all those over \$20 should include \$3 for postage and handling.

Moses Mason House Tile \$3.50  
Stationery (package of ten sheets and ten envelopes) \$2 ea.

Moses Mason House Bethel Railroad Station  
Summer House Bethel Covered Bridge

### Booklets

"Bethel's Broad Street" 75¢  
"The Family Farm" 75¢  
"Made in Bethel" 75¢  
"Dr. Moses Mason and His House" \$1  
"Molly Ockett" \$2

### Maps and Atlases

1880 Map of Bethel Hill \$2  
1880 Map of Entire Town (Bethel) \$2  
1878 Bird's Eye View of Bethel Hill \$1  
1858 Atlas of Oxford County \$6.50  
Tote Bag (Moses Mason Museum logo) sm. \$7.50 lg. \$11.50  
Placemats, 4 Season (set of four) \$7.50

### Books

Heywood, HISTORY OF UPTON, MAINE \$10  
Hutchinson, THE RUMFORD FALLS & RANGELEY LAKES RAILROAD \$20  
BETHEL, MAINE CEMETERIES \$9.50  
Russell, INDIAN NEW ENGLAND BEFORE THE MAYFLOWER \$11.95  
William B. Lapham, HISTORY OF WOODSTOCK, MAINE \$19.95  
B. G. Willey, INCIDENTS IN WHITE MOUNTAIN HISTORY \$25  
Maxim & Lapham, HISTORY OF PARIS \$55  
Holt, GRAND TRUNK LINES OF NEW ENGLAND \$24.95  
D. B. Wight, WILD RIVER WILDERNESS \$4  
Francis Parkman, THE GOULD ACADEMY STORY \$7.50  
MAINE IN THE EARLY REPUBLIC \$29.95  
BETHEL HISTORICAL SOCIETY COOKBOOK \$5  
Thomas Hubka, BIG HOUSE, LITTLE HOUSE, BACK HOUSE BARN: THE CONNECTED FARM BUILDINGS OF NEW ENGLAND Paper \$19.95. Cloth \$29.95  
William B. Lapham, HISTORY OF NORWAY, MAINE \$55  
M. F. King, ANNALS OF OXFORD \$48  
Jean Lipman, RUFUS PORTER REDISCOVERED \$14.95  
A TRUTHFUL LIKENESS: CHESTER HARDING AND HIS PORTRAITS \$25  
Paula Wight, NEWRY PROFILES \$5  
Eva Bean, EAST BETHEL ROAD \$50  
R. H. Bennett, OXFORD COUNTY, MAINE \$18  
William B. Lapham, HISTORY OF BETHEL, 1768-1890 \$45  
F. W. Kilbourne, CHRONICLES OF THE WHITE MOUNTAINS \$20

### T-Shirts

Moses Mason Museum (Adult) (S,M,L,XL) \$7  
Moses Mason Museum (Child's) (4-6-8-10-12-14) \$6  
Sudbury Canada 1768-1796 (Adult) (S,M,L,XL) \$7  
Sudbury Canada 1768-1796 (Child's) (4-6-8-10-12-14) \$6

### Post Cards: Dr. Mason, Agnes Mason,

Moses Mason House 10¢ ea.  
Bethel Historical Society Calendar, 1989 \$6

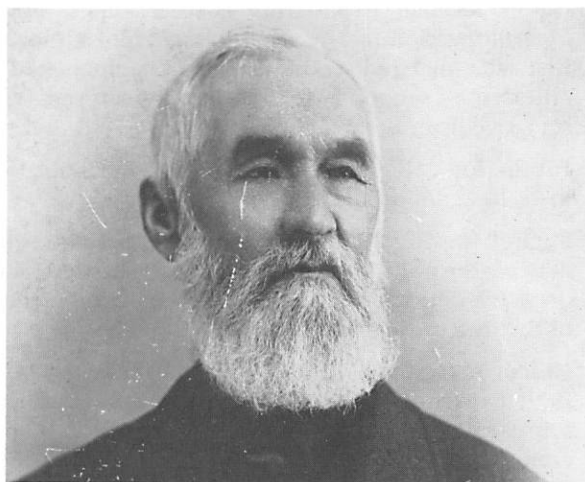
Members of the Bethel Historical Society are entitled to a 10% discount for purchases totaling \$10 or more. Please send orders to the Society at P.O. Box 12, Bethel, Maine 04217. They will be sent by return mail.

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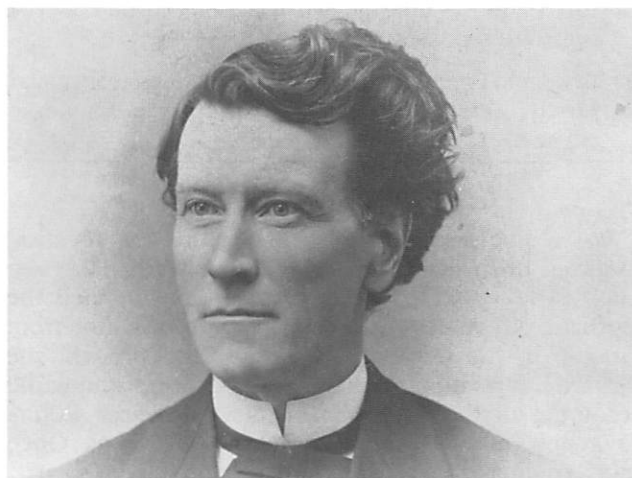
- (27) Lillian Young (1924-1973), businesswoman, born in Springvale, ME, married Harold W. Young, 2 children, Purity Chapter, O.E.S., American Legion Auxillary, Fireman's Auxillary, clerk 1969-72  
(28) Judith A. Young (1942- ), office assistant, married Grover Young, clerk 1972-75  
(29) Merton T. Brown, Jr. (1949- ), town official, born in Rumford, married Martha Wentworth, 3 children, chairman SAD #44 Board of Directors, clerk 1975-



*Gideon A. Hastings*



*Israel G. Kimball*



*Enoch Foster, Jr.*



*Wesley Wheeler*



*Alice Joy Brooks*



*Violet Bennett*



*Lillian Young*

## BOOK REVIEW

*THE GUNPOWDER MILLS OF MAINE.* By Maurice M. Whitten. (Gorham, Maine: M. M. Whitten, 1990. Pp. 324. \$22.95.) Order from the author: 11 Lincoln Street, Gorham, Maine 04038.

Maurice M. Whitten, a retired professor of chemistry at the University of Southern Maine, has made a major contribution to a neglected area of Maine history with this important book on the manufacture of gunpowder in Maine. During the 19th century, this Maine industry supplied significant amounts for national and international consumption. Using imported salt peter and sulphur combined with charcoal derived from burning alder, willow, poplar and/or maple, the industry, situated along streams in Gorham/Windham, North Buckfield, Camden and Warren, began manufacture shortly after Maine became a state in 1820. Dr. Whitten discusses the construction of buildings for various purposes, mills using water power for pounding, purifying, pressing, kernelling, and glazing as well as structures for storage. Clearly this was dangerous work and the layout of buildings, scattered among trees and other obstacles, prevented major catastrophies. All implements used were made of wood to lessen the danger of sparks, but explosions happened despite all the precautions, causing disfiguration and sometimes death. Professor Whitten describes these calamities and other factors of the production process by making wide use of primary sources. His thorough knowledge of the chemical and technical processes involved greatly enhances the book as well.

The building of the Atlantic and St. Lawrence Railroad and the fighting of Civil War brought ready markets for Maine explosives. At Gorham/Windham, production soared to 1,300,000 pounds in 1860. At the other locations, production levels for 1860 were not nearly so remarkable: North Buckfield 150,000 pounds with Camden and Warren 125,000 pounds each. All of this production began to be phased out by the end of the 19th century when mergers forced the closing of this Maine industry. Today all that remains are rock foundations near streams and a few artifacts.

This book is superbly illustrated with clear maps, photographs and sketches. It also contains a useful appendix and index. Dr. Whitten is to be heartily congratulated for his efforts at uniting the fields of history and science and technology in such an innovative and absorbing manner.

SRH

## 1990 SOCIETY MONTHLY PROGRAM SCHEDULE

January 4, "So You Think You Know Bethel" Annual Contest; February 1, "Bethel in 1790": Bicentenary of the First Federal Census; March 1, Annual Historical Film Festival; April 5, "Diaries and Local History", Stanley R. Howe, Director, Bethel Historical Society; May 3, "Andover, Maine and Vicinity Through the Years", Allan Fraser, Bethel Historical Society; June 7, Round Table Discussion: "Mining in Bethel", Film: "Maine Mineral Treasures"; July 5, Annual Picnic, West Bethel, "Historical Highlights of Old Route Two", Jane Hosterman and Constance Vautour, Bethel Historical Society; August 2, "A History of Maine Tourism", Richard Judd, Assistant Professor of History, University of Maine, Orono; September 6, 25th Annual Meeting, "500 Miles of Maine Trolleys", Robert M. York, State Historian; October 4, Annual Collectibles and "What's It" Night; November 1, "Bethel's Vernon Street Through the Years", Geraldine Howe, Bethel Historical Society; December 6, Annual "Christmas with the Masons". All meetings will be held at the Dr. Moses Mason House meeting room beginning at 7:30 P.M. unless otherwise noted. The picnic and the annual meeting pot luck supper will begin at 6:30 P.M.



## ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS TO THE SECOND EDITION OF EAST BETHEL ROAD

### BIRTHS

To Wesley and Debra Hertell Arsenault, July 26, 1988, a daughter, Kirsten Elizabeth

To Donald and Christine Smith Bachelder, Conyers, GA, January 15, 1988, a son, Brent Homer

To Peter and Debbie Wright Barlow, June 11, 1989, a son, Christopher Forrey

To Andrew and Kelly Brooks Bean, June 7, 1989, a daughter, Naomi Kathryn

To Rebecca Bean and Michael Hart, August 30, 1989, a son, Nicholas Allen Bean

To Brian and Christine Mills Blake, September 8, 1988, a daughter, Mallory Jean

To Clyde & Sene Tuttle Brooks, August 15, 1989, a daughter, Marya Lea

To David and Kathy Emery Brown, February 11, 1989, a son, Chance Jay

To Michael and Holly Bancroft Brown, February 22, 1989, a daughter, Samantha Leslie

To Leo and Pamela Walker Buck, April 29, 1989, a son, Andrew James

To Thomas Buckman and Crystal Tewksbury, July 4, 1989, a daughter, Christina Marie Buckman

To Jeffrey and Deborah Walker Campbell, April 18, 1989, a son, Joshua Knights

To Robert and Tammy Dunham Caron, December 25, 1988, a daughter, Elizabeth Marie Noelle

To Kenneth and Katherine Corriveau Cole, January 29, 1989, a daughter, Brittany Lynn

To Stephen and Sandy Walker Cole, January 1, 1989, a son, Ransom Lester Ray

To Robert S. and Michelle Awod Conroy, March 22, 1989, a daughter, Lauren Elizabeth

To Andrew Crockett and Lisa Standeven, June 7, 1989, a son, Alex Crag Crockett

To Stephen and Rosalie Coolidge Cross, February 18, 1988, a son, Michael Jason

To Rexford and Shelia Tremblay Cummings, February 24, 1988, a daughter, Ashley Karen

To Wayne and Becky Wentworth Cummings, August 30, 1989, a daughter, Abbie Wentworth

To Anthony Wayne Cyr and Doreen Athson Dyke, January 7, 1989, a daughter, Cricket Marie

To Douglas and Wanda Greenleaf, February 21, 1989, a daughter, Kayla Lynn

To Douglas H. and Bertha Cox Grover, October 7, 1988, a daughter, Bethany Ellen

To Brian and Wendy Davis Hanscom, June 7, 1989, a daughter, Kelsie Marie

To Paul and Kathy Hebert, January 13, 1989, a daughter, Tonya Kay Marlene

To Thomas and Suzanne Kimball Howe, February 11, 1988, a son, Jason Scott

To David and Roberta Saunders Hunt, May 11, 1988, a son, Shaun David

To Troy and Maryanne House Jordan, October 6, 1988, a daughter, Tiffany Bette

To Richard S. Jr., and Julie Gunther Kimball, February 4, 1989, a son, Ryan Zachary

To Kip and Leslie Bancroft Krichke, November 15, 1988, a son, Kade

To Michael and Carol Hayner Kutz, April 18, 1988, a daughter, Johannah Elizabeth

To Don and Karen Saunders Lampher, June 3, 1989, a son, Jacob Scott

To John and Lorna Bean Mahar, September 17, 1988, a daughter, Linda Lee

To Richard and Jeri Martin Manson, June 15, 1989, a daughter, Megan Rave

To Tracy Mason and Sheila Kimball, June 15, 1989, a son, Richard Stewart Mason

To Brian and Elizabeth Mercer O'Connor, August 22, 1988, a son, Sean

To Phil and Betsey Brown Oliver, April 22, 1988, a son, Luke Phillip

To Rickie and Melissa Westleigh Osgood, August 18, 1989, a daughter, Merissa Adelia Mae

To Jody and Jolene Andre Shimamura, September 2, 1988, a daughter, Caitlin Jaye

To James and Jacqueline Martin Thurston, June 5, 1989, a son, Tyler James

To Bruce and Velora Kimball Tuominen, June 2, 1988, a daughter, Brianna

To Donald and Teresa Coolidge Walker, December 4, 1987, a son, Nathan

To Scott Walley and Laurie Wilson, October 1, 1988, a daughter, Samantha Lois Walley

To Eric and Stephanie Fuller Wardwell, April 1, 1989, a daughter, Meghan Laura-Lee

To Kevin and Wanda Palmer York, February 28, 1989, a daughter, Heather Marie

To William and Louise Snyder, a son, September 13, 1989, Charles William

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Herbert Winslow's wife's mother should be Laura Bishop, born in Rumford, ME, instead of Marjorie Rand Tibbetts.

Pg. 647

3a should be Jacob Ellis, not Jason Ellis

### MARRIAGES

Larry Hudson and Kelly Jean Boyle, October 16, 1987, Cape Elizabeth, Maine

Edward Carter and Patricia Gunther, December 12, 1987

Jerome Anthony Zespy Holt of Bethel and Elizabeth Susan Elliott, daughter of John and Janet Elliott of South Portland, May 7, 1988

John Kittredge of Portland and Penny Bean, May 8, 1988

Robert Festino of Saco and Denise Foster of Andover, May 28, 1988

Dr. L. Dustin Kimball, III, and Karen Louise Lindover, June 18, 1988, South Bend, IN

Jeff Hastings and Katie Malloy, June 25, 1988

James Grover and Dawn Roberts, July 2, 1988

Eric Hastings and Celeste Chamberlain, July 8, 1988

Geoffrey Gaudreau and Wendy Cross, August 20, 1988

Kevin Mercer and Melanie Stevens, October 8, 1988, Hyanis, MA

Alan Williams and Elizabeth G. Kimball, February 12, 1989, Newburyport, MA

Jeffrey Mills and Tammy Reed, February 18, 1989, Bethel, ME

Anthony E. Hunt of Norway and Susan Fillebrown of Waterford, April 29, 1989

Scott Dwight Brown and Lesa Mary Barlow, July 29, 1989, West Bethel, ME

### DEATHS

Esther Balentine, August 6, 1988

Raymond M. Bartlett, May 29, 1989

Marjorie C. Brooks, November 17, 1988

Rodney Warren Brooks, June 8, 1988

Cornelia J. Brown, September 10, 1988

Marjorie F. Cummings, May 31, 1988

Elmer Dingley, January 31, 1989  
 Bethany Ellen Grover, December 15, 1988  
 Howard Farnum, May 1, 1988  
 Robert Donald Holt, August 16, 1989  
 Ruby I. Huston, June 27, 1989  
 Willard P. Farwell, August 23, 1988  
 Methyl Wing Gerrish, January 28, 1989  
 Katherine Carter Johnston, December 23, 1988  
 Iva Bartlett Hutchinson, June 14, 1989  
 Richard S. Kimball, Jr., March 15, 1989  
 Stanley C. Moore, Sr., April 16, 1988  
 Linwood C. Newell, May 1, 1988  
 Lewis Smith, Jr., March 24, 1988  
 Kimberley Coolidge Shriver, October 22, 1988  
 Margureitta Spinney, February 15, 1988  
 Elizabeth Swan, April 26, 1988  
 Isa H. Swan, April 27, 1988  
 Cole Wing, March 22, 1988  
 Winfred Swan, August 19, 1989  
 Francis Ward, Jr., December 24, 1988  
 Florence B. York, April 17, 1988

### NEW LIFE MEMBERS

RANDALL H. BENNETT, Bethel  
 JOHN G. and SANDRA G. HOWE, Severn, MD  
 ALBERT E. JUDKINS, West Peru

### REFLECTIONS OF A HALF CENTURY

(continued from the last issue)

By Leslie E. Davis

We first used two strands of 3/8 inch flexible wire rope on the outside of each driving and idler unit clamped to light steel castings spaced about 7 or 8 inches apart; the whole thing made a very flexible belt consisting of four wire cables clamped to castings having an overall width of about 9 inches and long enough to go over both the drive and idler wheel. We used this same type until 1927 and 1928 when practically all towns in New England adopted the practice of keeping their roads plowed for winter use of automobiles. This made the "snow-mobile", which it was called, obsolete, but it created enough winter repair work and servicing to replace the loss.



*The gift of a portrait of Phineas Howard, Sr. (1765-1851) was officially announced at the annual "Christmas with the Masons" meeting in December. Painted by an unknown artist, the portrait will be on permanent exhibition in the Dr. Moses Mason House since it appears to be an early 19th century work. Phineas Howard, the proprietor of Howard's Gore, now part of the town of Hanover, lived briefly in Bethel (then Sudbury Canada). The donor is Judith Ray of Austin, Texas, a summer resident of Hanover, ME.*

During those years from 1923 to 1928 we built various models of snow travel, some of them rather weird contraptions. I built one with just one drive belt on the left hand side using two runners in front and one runner on the right and made quite a few trips with it, but in some weather conditions it didn't steer well. The most profitable one was a sedan which I built in 1926 with a capacity of 6 or 7 persons besides the driver. We operated these for hire and that one earned a lot of money.

In the winter of 1922/23, Earl cut his foot while working in the woods in Newry and was in the hospital at Rumford during February or March of 1923 with blood poisoning from an

(continued on next page)

### Join the Bethel Historical Society dedicated to preserving and interpreting the local past.

Membership in the Society entitles you to:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| (1) free admission to the museum            | (5) quarterly publication                    |
| (2) special discounts at museum store       | (6) reduced course fees                      |
| (3) preferred rate for meeting room rental  | (7) voting rights in the Society             |
| (4) special library and archival privileges | (8) special invitations to Society occasions |

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..... Life under 55 years \$100 single

..... Life under 55 years \$150 couple

..... Individual preference (any amount over \$5)

..... Corporate \$50



### MEMBER PROFILE

#### Willard and Sylvia Wight

Born in Newry, Willard Wight graduated from Gould Academy in 1935. After attendance at the University of Maine, Orono, he served in the United States Army during World War II. Following the war, he worked for the Maine Forest Service for nearly thirty years, retiring to Newry in 1973. He has served almost continuously on the Newry Board of Selectmen since 1974 and is very active in a number of community organizations. In 1943, he married Sylvia Barnett of Upton and they have three children and two grandchildren. Mrs. Wight is also very active in the community as a member of the Community Church, Newry Mother's Club, the Windy Valley Snowmobile Club and Bear River Grange.

Life members of the Society, they have been very active for many years. Mr. Wight served as a trustee 1982-85 and Mrs. Wight has served as a trustee since 1987. She has been active on the Special Projects Committee and as a guide in the museum. Both have been generous donors and have helped the Society in numerous ways.

### SOCIETY OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES

Marvin Ouwinga, President; Jane Hosterman, Vice President; Kenneth Bohr, Secretary and Clerk of the Trustees; Margaret Joy Tibbetts, Treasurer; Trustees: Donald S. Brown, Margaret A. Davis, Alden T. Kennett, Mary C. Keniston, Sylvia Wight

## CELEBRATION 200

Dr. Moses Mason

1789-1866

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infection which developed. He went to work at the Herrick Bros. Co. Garage in April or May of 1923 as soon as he was able to get around. He worked in the front shop tending gas, oil, and accessories and later helped sell Ford automobiles.

During the years 1923 through 1928, business at the garage was excellent. We increased our repair crew to six men regularly with sometimes an extra mechanic in the middle of the summer.

The regular crew was Bert Gibbs, Pete Silver, Roy Cummings, Joe Paine, later Lawrence Lord, Ray Cummings and myself.

During the summer of 1924 we did quite a lot of work for William Ellery of Bryant Pond, on his motor boat, lighting plant and automobiles, etc. When he got ready to go back to Brookline, Massachusetts for the winter, he offered me the job of returning with him and working as his chauffeur and mechanic. He offered \$40 per week and I would have most of my evenings. This appealed to me as I wanted to go to an automobile ignition and electric school, which gave a short evening course on the subjects of auto ignition, batteries and wiring, three evenings a week for two months.

(To be continued in the next issue)

The Bethel Historical Society  
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